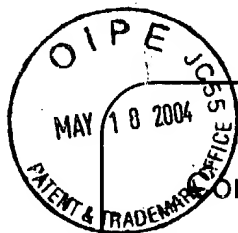


PRCE  
2171

PTO/SB/30 (09-03)



**Request  
For  
Continued Examination (RCE)  
Transmittal**

Address to:  
Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Application Number	09/981,686
Filing Date	October 17, 2001
First Named Inventor	Short, Charles F.
Art Unit	2171
Examiner Name	Frantz Coby
Attorney Docket Number	015517-001830US

**This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application.**  
Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. **Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114** Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).

- a. ☐ Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.
  - i. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_
  - ii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_
- b. ☒ Enclosed
  - i. ☐ Amendment/Reply
  - ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/ Declaration(s)
  - iii. ☒ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
  - iv. ☒ Other Fee Transmittal Sheet

2. **Miscellaneous**

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)
- b. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

3. **Fees**

The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 20-1430 on the attached Fee Transmittal Sheet.
  - i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)
  - ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)
  - iii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_
- b. ☐ Check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed
- c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

**WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization of PTO-2038.**

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED**

Name (Print /Type)	Tyrome Y. Brown	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	46,580
Signature	<i>Tyrome Y. Brown</i>	Date	5/14/2004

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Name (Print /Type)	Andrea S. Beck	Date	5/14/04
Signature	<i>Andrea S. Beck</i>		

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